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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1890.

THE BRAZILIAN REPUBLIC.

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At the time that the distinguished Senator from Alabama brought in his resolution and advocated it in a speech of convincing force, the Brazilian Republic was resting upon as firm a basis as it is to-day. The change of government had been so thorough and attended with so little disturbance that it was quite clear from the beginning that it had the consent of all the intelligent and respectable elements in the former empire, if not their direct and active concurrence. It was idle to suppose that such a complete revolution in the administration of Brazilian affairs could take place, as this revolution had done, without opposition, and yet not have the earnest support and sympathy of the overwhelming majority of the Brazilian people; and if it had the support and sympathy of such a majority, then there should have been no hesitation in recognizing the new Republic.

For years, the whole course of Dom Pedro had been such as to cultivate the strongest Republican spirit in his people. In his conduct as well as in his expressions of political opinion, he was practically a Republican himself, and the influence of his conspicuous example had made a deep impression upon his subjects.

That the United States should have declined to recognize the new Republic immediately upon its announcement, was not at all improper, but that is should have deferred that act for so great a length of time, subsequent to the debate in the Senate, on Senator Morgan's resolution, was unjustifiable in the light of the profound quiet in Brazil at the time, as well as in the light of the uninterrupted continuation of that quiet ever since. As the leading republic in the Western Hemisphere, a more weighty obligation rests upon the United States in its relations with the various nations of the Western Continents than upon any other republic.

Generally speaking, delay in recognizing a new government is not open to question, as this delay can at least work no harm, but in the special instance of Brazil, which was the last of the American countries to throw off a monarchical for a republican form of government, to have deferred its recognition for several months seems not only unseemly, but also reprehensible.

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Under the laws of many of the States of the Union attainment of the seventy-fifth birthday is prescribed as the limit of occupation of judicial office. There are many examples, however, recorded in the annals of courts of law, which furnish convincing evidence that a judge's usefulness is not necessarily impaired because he has reached so ripe an age. But there is reason to believe that the general principle is correct, physical infirmities, rather than any intellectual decline, constituting in the instance of so many men so far advanced in years the most serious obstacle in the way of their performing efficiently the duties which are incumbent upon them from the position which they hold.

It would be both just and graceful in the State to retire all of its judges who had reached the age of seventy-five, after serving a certain length of time on the bench, with the continuation of their pay in full. A law prescribing this only in the case of those who had attained to their eightieth year, is virtually a law which will have but a very limited application, for comparatively few men in any walk of life reach this great age; and those who do have generally become incapacitated physically, if not mentally, for the performance of the duties incident to their positions.

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The announcement that the Roman Catholic bishop of Leavenworth, Kan., is about to issue a pastoral letter to be read in all the churches of his diocese with reference to the prevailing agricultural condition in his State, and the relation to it of the Farmers' Alliance, is something as to the worthiness of some thing so significant as a passing notice.

The only objection which the Bishop, as the representative of his church ad-

vances in opposition to the alliance, is on the score of the secrecy of its proceedings, and the further fact that it is to a certain extent a religious organization. He says: "No body doubts Mr. Davis' intellectual capacity, but it was not his mental power that most impressed me. It was his goodness, first of all, and then his intellectual integrity."

It sounds most strangely to read his very forcible statement of the present condition of the farming classes of Kansas, Kansas which is one of the most fertile agricultural sections of the West. The evil, he declares, does not lie in the failure of the crops; never were the crops more bountiful; so very bountiful, indeed, that a Kansas justice of the peace has recently decided that corn was fuel, a decision that would have caused him to be tarred and feathered if corn had not been superabundant and excessively low in price. And yet, according to the letter of Bishop Fink, to which we are referring, in the very midst of overflowing granaries very many of the Kansas farmers "are suffering and in misery, and uncertain what they shall do in the future." If matters continue as they are, he earnestly asserts, this large class of farmers must inevitably lose their houses and homes, and the same misfortune must, in the end, overtake those engaged in the same pursuit whose condition is much better just now.

The distress of the farming population, it would seem, is certainly destined to extend to every class in the Western communities unless there is some improvement in the condition of that population at a comparatively early day. The probability is that the profound dissatisfaction of this class throughout the West will be exhibited most emphatically in all of the States of that part of the Republic at the first general election, and the same far-reaching revolution will then, no doubt, occur in every one of these States that took place in Iowa in November last. One thing is unquestionable: the present condition of the farming classes throughout the Union cannot continue without producing a general bankruptcy. This evil can only be averted by a radical change in our tariff system as it now prevails.

#### INTERVIEW WITH CLEVELAND.

In a lengthy interview with a correspondent of the Baltimore Sun, on Wednesday, ex-President Cleveland reiterated in the strongest terms his command his unwavering devotion to the three great reforms with which his name is now so intimately associated—that is, ballot, civil-service, and tariff reform. He was clear, direct and uncompromising in his expression of views on these, the three leading issues before the American people for final settlement, and a more convincing statement in their support has rarely been made, even by Mr. Cleveland himself.

Especially interesting were his references to the intimate connection between the tariff and the present condition of the farmer of the North and Northwest. "The high tariff," he declared, "has brought mortgages and ruin upon the farmers of these sections, and it was hard to understand why so many of them clung to what was their destruction." As he had recently remarked, the Republican press and Republican speakers had in their appeals to the farmers associated the tariff issue with the cry of sectionalism, and this undoubtedly had much effect on the North and Northwest. He thought "the best way to reach the farmers and convince them of their own true interests was the establishment of tariff-reform clubs among them, and dissemination of that character of tariff literature applicable to their circumstances. It had been too much the custom in the party to read in the rural districts tariff documents consisting of facts and arguments of interest only for city people. These were doubtless thrown aside by the country people without reading. The proper way to have them understand and appreciate the question was to give them veritable object lessons, facts and figures which come home to them. This was already being done."

The American Economic Association, of which Professor Richard T. Ely, of Johns Hopkins University, is secretary, has already done much to advance economic studies by the establishment of prizes for the best essays on special subjects. The association proposes to make these prizes the highest honors in economics in the United States. In his last report, Professor Ely suggests the foundation of fellowships in economics to be awarded to graduates of any American college. The fellows would be expected to devote themselves to economic studies and to make reports of progress to the president of the association.

Among the subjects which have been selected for prize essays are the following, which may be mentioned as showing the character of the work which the association is doing in this direction: Housing of the poor in cities, the economic aspects of foreign natural monopolies, the silver question, the normal working day, factory legislation, rent in the United States, the economic aspects of patents, historical and critical sketches of taxation in any one of our Commonwealths, also in separate taxes, as income taxes, taxation of inheritances and bequests, etc.

This wonderful personal magnetism of the late ex President Davis was never more strikingly manifested than in the change which contact with him wrought in James Redpath. But little over a year ago Mr. Redpath was in Richmond en route to Beauvoir, where he had been sent by the North American Review to write a series of articles from that classic locality, and called at the Times office for notes of introduction to Mr. and Mrs. Davis. At that time he had the reputation of being one of the most bitter anti-Southern men in the country, and it was generally understood that, like all men of that stamp, his venom was particularly directed against Mr. Davis personally. He received the letters desired, however, and was welcomed at Beauvoir with the cordial hospitality which has always been a mark characteristic of his host and hostess. As a result of a three months' visit, Mr. Redpath's former views completely changed, and he, in a recent article entitled "Neither a Rebel nor a

#### THOUGHTS OF "TIMES" READERS

The Negro Normal School and Justice to the Colored Man.

Allow a citizen of Nottoway to say "Amen" to the brave words of "Justitia."

In Thursday's TIMES, They lie closer to our hearts than any public declaration since the ordinances of secession from an Africanized nation in 1861.

We will do justice to the colored man.

The attempted education of the African freedmen has spoiled thousands of good laborers and never yet made a single one.

They lie closer to our hearts in the Southside.

That Sambo has learned enough "long-tailed words in logic and actions," and that a stamp-tailed steer in a new-ground is better adapted to the development of moral and intellectual school than a

black school.

As an after-dinner pill, used by thousands.

Ayer's Pills,

Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass  
Sold by all Druggists and Dealers in Mediator.

1 year ..... \$5.00

6 months ..... 2.50

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